



BRISSON
TIMMS
ČIZMEŠIJA
ACUÑA
LOKUS

BATMAN INCORPORATED

BATMAN
INCORPORATED
IS
DONE!

13+
TEEN

EMV

DISCOVER HOW THE DARK KNIGHT MET THE MAN OF STEEL!

BATMAN • SUPERMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST** #18



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AUGUST

WRITTEN BY
MARK WAID

ART BY
TRAVIS MOORE

MAIN COVER BY DAN MORA

KANGBASHI
DISTRICT,
ORDOS
CITY.

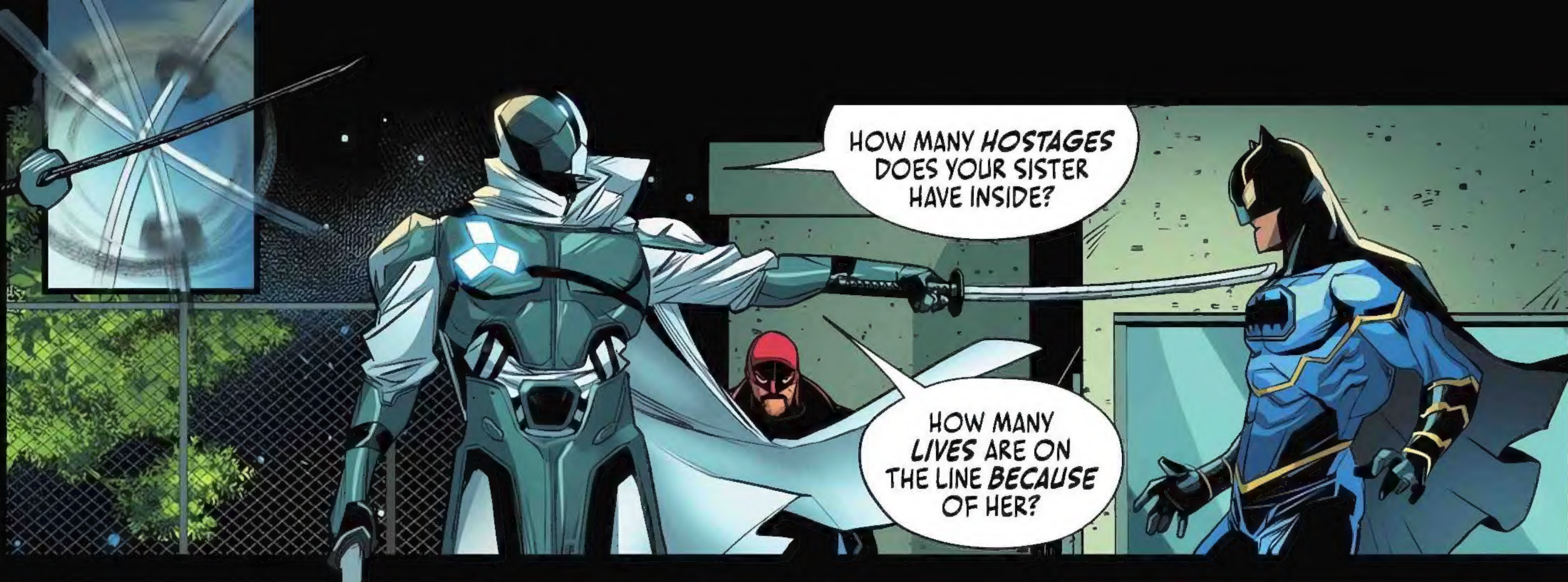
STAND DOWN,
BAT-MAN.

I HEARD YOU,
GHOST-MAKER.

I HEARD
YOU ON THE
COMMS, TELLING BATMAN
INCORPORATED TO KILL
EVERYONE IN JOKER
INCORPORATED.

I WON'T
LET YOU KILL MY
SISTER!

STOP IT,
BOTH OF YOU.
THERE HAS TO BE
ANOTHER--



HOW MANY HOSTAGES DOES YOUR SISTER HAVE INSIDE?

HOW MANY LIVES ARE ON THE LINE BECAUSE OF HER?



I CAN TALK TO HER. THAT'S... THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE. TO TALK TO HER. TO STOP THIS.

JOKER HAS GOTTEN INTO HER HEAD. THIS ISN'T WHO SHE IS.



HOW MANY?



I DON'T KNOW... AT LEAST A HUNDRED.

BUT, IF YOU JUST LET ME TALK TO HER, I'M SURE--

NO.



IT'S NOT A RISK I'M WILLING TO TAKE, NOR IS IT ONE YOU SHOULD.



I WON'T LET YOU!

ALL THIS FIGHTING...



...OVER
LITTLE OL'
ME?



HEY, BACK UP,
MR. GROUCHO.

YEAH, LET
THE MEN HACK IT
OUT AMONGST
THEMSELVES.



TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION,
GHOST-MAKER...



...I HAVE **134**
HOSTAGES. WAIT,
NO...**132**, I FORGOT
I **ALREADY** KILLED
TWO.

I HAD
HOPED FOR MORE,
BUT BARELY ANYONE
LIVES IN THIS AREA, SO
WE HAVE TO MAKE
DO WITH WHAT
WE HAVE.

132 HOSTAGES
ALL LINED UP AND
READY TO BE **PUSHED**
FROM THE TOP OF
THE BUILDING, UNLESS
THE TWO OF YOU
KEEP FIGHTING.

IF ONE
OF YOU MANAGES
TO KILL THE OTHER,
WE'LL LET THEM
ALL GO.

YOU STOP,
WELL...

...**BOMBS**
AWAY!

GREAT PLAINS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

RAVEN RED,
YOU CAN'T--

YOU
DEAL WITH THE
HOSTAGES.

ghost-maker said
if we tried to
free them--

JUST UNTIE
THEM AND KEEP
'EM CLOSE
THEN.

DUSTY BRONCO
IS *MINE* AND *MINE*
ALONE.

WELL,
HELL,
SON!

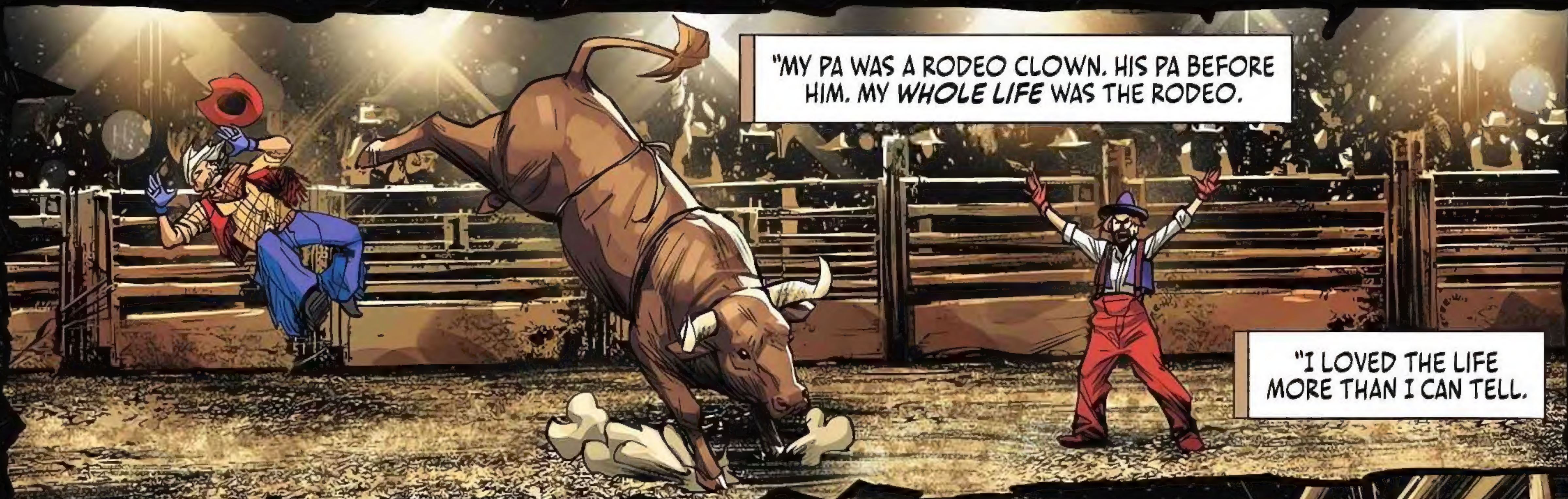
I CAN'T TELL
YOU *HOW MUCH*
I'VE BEEN WAITING
FOR THIS HERE
MOMENT.

BET YOU
DON'T EVEN
REMEMBER ME,
DO YA?

I'VE *NEVER*
SEEN YOU BEFORE
IN MY LIFE.

WHATEVER HISTORY
YOU *THINK* WE MIGHT
HAVE, IT DON'T CHANGE
A *DAMNED* THING.

MAYBE NOT,
BUT IT'S *ONLY* FAIR
YOU KNOW *WHY* I SHOT YOUR
PA AND *WHY* I'M *FIXIN'* TO END
YOU IN THE *SAME* FASHION.



"MY PA WAS A RODEO CLOWN. HIS PA BEFORE HIM. MY *WHOLE LIFE* WAS THE RODEO.

"I LOVED THE LIFE MORE THAN I CAN TELL.

"DON'T MEAN THAT IT LOVED ME BACK. *NO SIR.*

"PEOPLE THINK WE'RE THERE TO MAKE 'EM LAUGH, WHICH...*MAYBE SO*, BUT OUR *PRIMARY GOAL* IS TO DISTRACT THE BULL, LET THE RIDERS GET AWAY *SAFE AND SOUND.*

"YOU EVER HEAR THAT SAYIN', YOU MESS WITH THE BULL, YOU GET THE HORNS?"

"LET ME TELL YOU: THEM WORDS IS *GOSPEL.*

"I NEEDED SOMETHING TO HELP WITH THE PAIN, ON ACCOUNT OF THE *AFOREMENTIONED HORNS.*

"BUT, I GUESS TO YOUR PA, DRUGS IS DRUGS AND..."

"COULDN'T AFFORD NO DOCTOR, SO HAD TO TURN TO OTHER, MORE LOCAL MEANS OF DEALIN' WITH IT.

"...WELL, HE AIN'T ONE TO PULL HIS PUNCHES NOW, IS HE?"

"OLD MAN DID ME *WORSE* THAN ANY BULL EVER DID. BROKE MOSTA THE BONES IN MY BODY.

"WAS IN THE HOSPITAL FOR SIX MONTHS.

"HAD TO LEARN TO WALK AGAIN.

"AND *LOST* MY GIG ON THE CIRCUIT.

"ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO BE A *RODEO CLOWN*, JUST LIKE MY PA AND HIS.

"YOUR DAD TOOK THAT FROM ME."





JOKER GAVE
ME THE OPPORTUNITY
TO FACE THE TWO OF
YOU AGAIN.

PAY Y'ALL
BACK FOR WHAT
YOU TOOK FROM
ME.



HERE.



WE'VE BOTH
OF US GOT
SCORES TO SETTLE
WITH ONE
ANOTHER.



I FIGURE
A GOOD OL'
FASHIONED DUEL
IS AS GOOD A
WAY AS ANY TO
SETTLE IT.



RAVEN
RED, YOU
CAN'T--

DON'T
TELL ME WHAT I
CAN'T DO.

IT'S NOT
YOUR DAD
THAT'S LAID UP IN A
HOSPITAL BED
DYING.



AH...

CORVUS CAWL

TAP DANCE MAN

THE DAI LAFY

THE CHARLES DE GHOUL

ALPACA

DUSTY

...GOOD.
EVERYONE'S
TOGETHER.

WELL, ALMOST EVERYONE.
VERY TRICKY WORK,
DAI LAFFIN.

WHERE
DID YOU RUN
OFF TO?

BZZT
BZZT

LOOKS
LIKE YOU'VE GOT
A CALL.





NOW THAT EVERYONE'S HAD A MOMENT TO GET ACQUAINTED, I THINK IT'S TIME TO JUST GO AHEAD AND ACTIVATE ALL OF THE DEVICES I SO CLEVERLY PLANTED IN EACH MEMBER.



NO!



BOOP.



OKAY, ALL DONE.

THE DEVICES ARE ALL ARMED AND READY TO GO. YOU KNOW THE RULES--IF YOU WANT TO STOP THE DEVICES FROM GOING OFF AND KILLING EVERYONE, ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS KILL JOKER INCORPORATED.

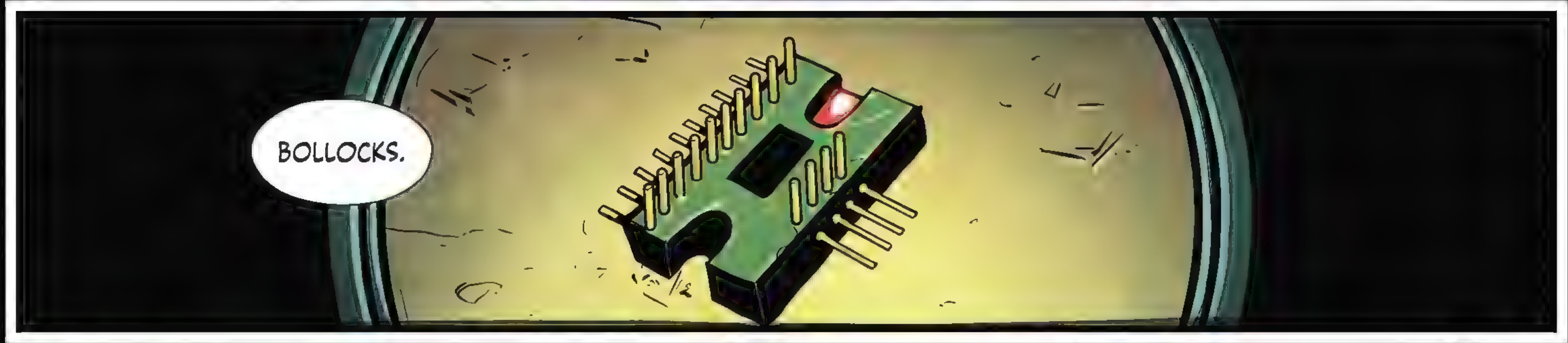
EASY PEASY LEMON SQUEEZY. IF YOU REMOVE THE DEVICES, SAVE THE HOSTAGES, ET CETERA, ET CETERA... KABLOOEY.

ALSO, JUST IN CASE I FORGOT TO MENTION IT...

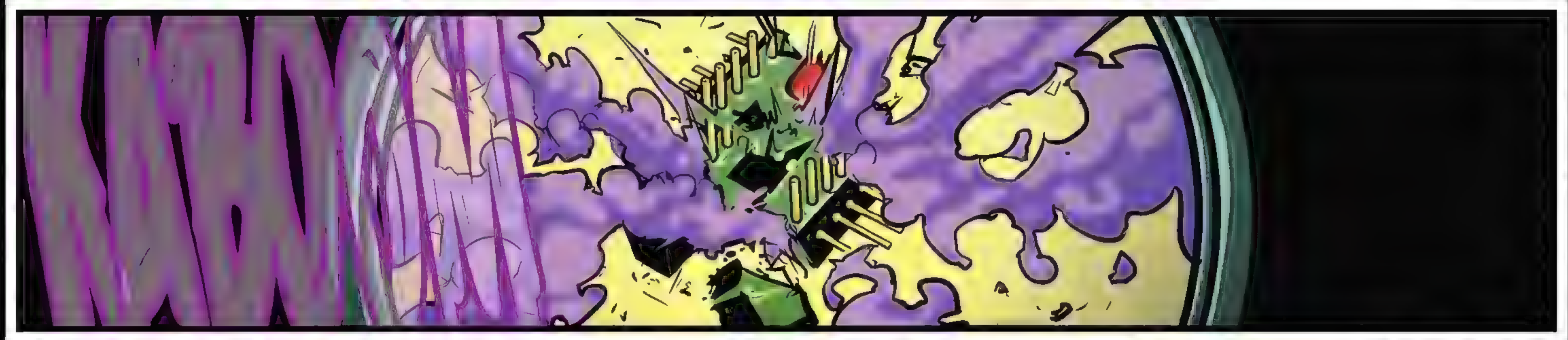


...THE DEVICES ARE NOW SET TO GO OFF IN THIRTY MINUTES INSTEAD OF AN HOUR.

TOODLES!



BOLLOCKS.



DAMMIT,
DAMMIT,
DAMMIT.

THERE IS
NOT MUCH OF THE
DEVICE LEFT.

BUT,
MAYBE WE CAN
RECONSTRUCT--

NO.

WE SCREWED
IT. WE HAD THE
DEVICE--WE WEREN'T
FAST ENOUGH.

WE LOST
THE DEVICE AND WE
LET DAI LAFFYN ESCAPE.
A LOT OF BLOODY
GOOD WE ARE.



BATMAN
INCORPORATED, THIS
IS KNIGHT.

JIRO
HERE. ANY
UPDATES?

WE
LOST THE
DEVICE.

LOOKS LIKE
JOKER ACTIVATED IT
AND, WELL...



...I'M
SORRY.

DON'T BE.
YOU DIDN'T PUT
US IN THIS SITUATION.
WE'LL FIND A WAY TO
STOP THEM--WE
ALWAYS DO.

NO, WE
NEED MORE
TIME!

I NEED
TO SAVE MY
SISTER.

OUR ONLY
OPTION NOW IS
TO **CONTAIN** THE
THREAT, NON?

IF WE
CANNOT SAVE
THEM FROM DYING,
AT LEAST WE CAN STOP
THEM FROM TAKING
OTHERS WITH
THEM.

PARIS,
FRANCE.

OUI.

MERCI,
MONSIEUR
JOKER.

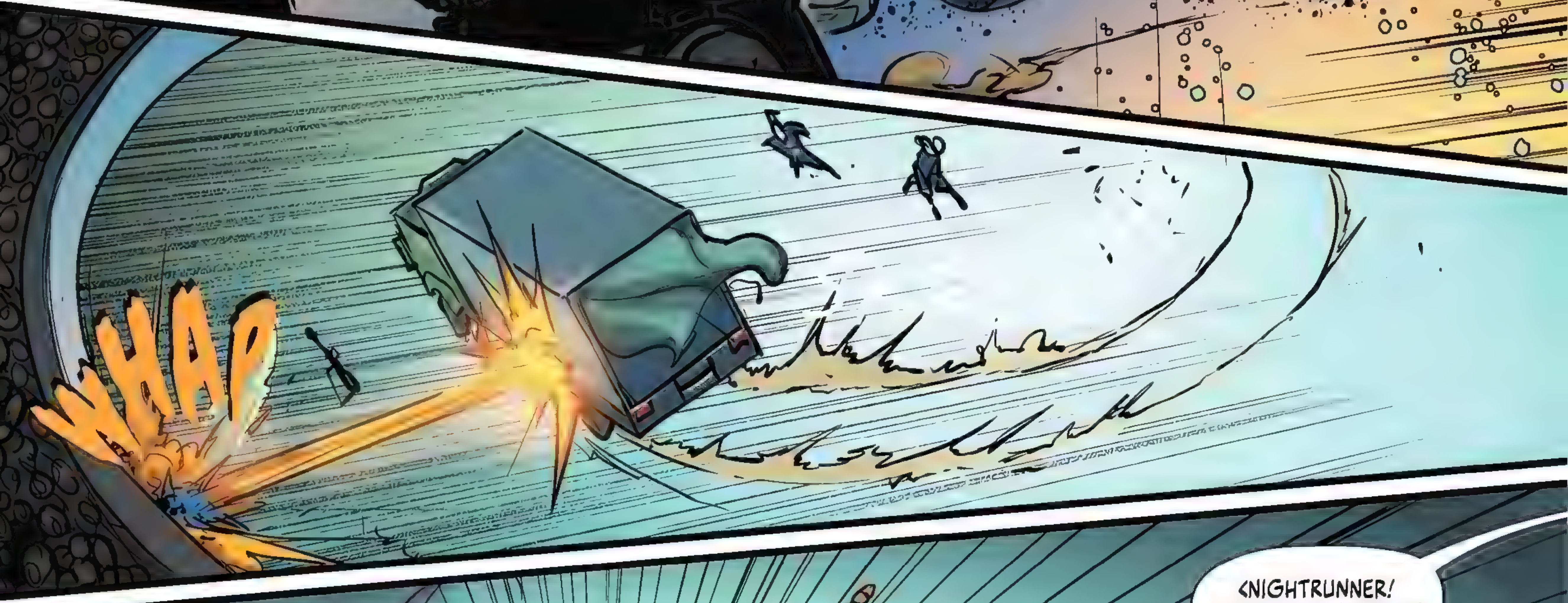
«LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN...»

«...AFTER A
BIT OF DELAY, I
HAVE FINALLY RECEIVED
WORD THAT THE *CIRQUE
DE LA MORT* IS READY
TO BEGIN.»

«A SHOW
THAT WILL NOT
ONLY BE THE GREATEST
SHOW OF YOUR
LIVES...»

*TRANSLATED
FROM FRENCH.

«...IT WILL ALSO
BE THE *FINAL* SHOW
OF YOUR LIVES!»



«NIGHTRUNNER!
YOU FOOL, YOU RUIN
EVERYTHING!»

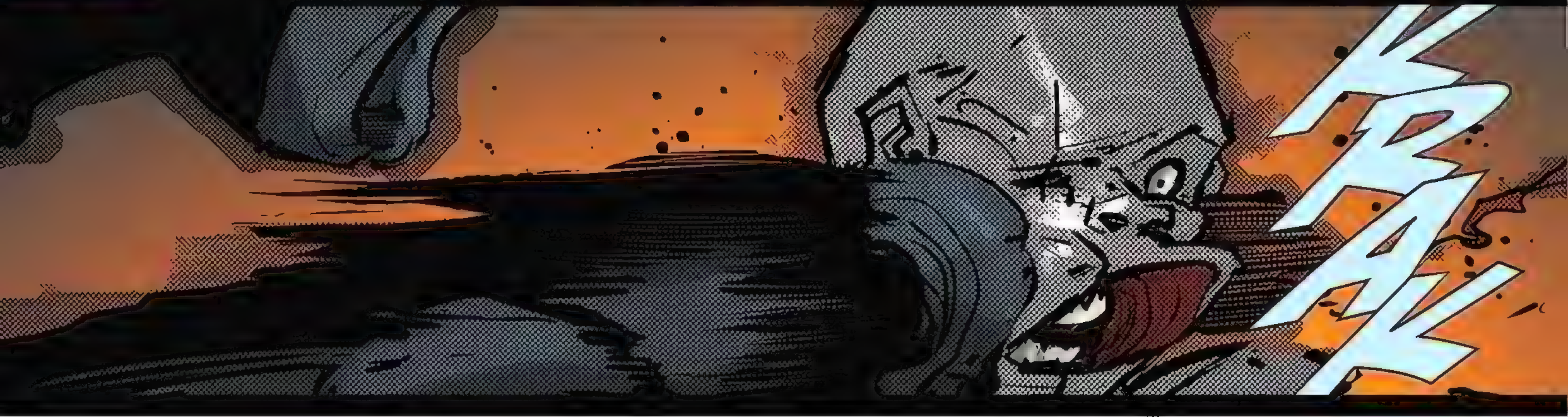


«CIRQUE!
FINISH HIM OFF!
HE CANNOT STOP
THE SHOW!»



«ALL OF THIS WORK, THE TENTS, THE GIMMICKS: FOR WHAT? SO YOU CAN *IMPRESS* THE JOKER?»

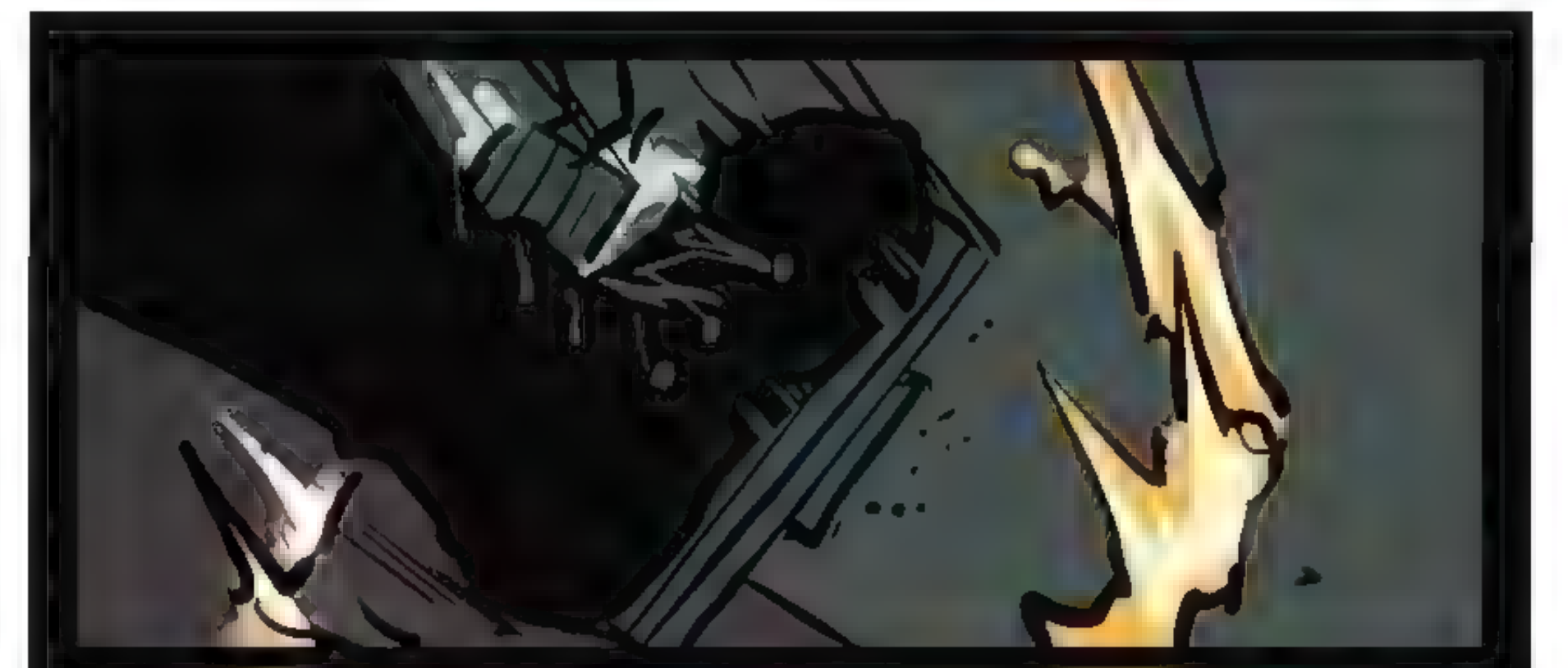
«YET, HE'S SENTENCED YOU *TO DIE*, CHARLES DE GHOUL. YOU ARE *NOT* AN EQUAL TO HIM-- ONLY A TOY IN HIS BOX TO BE *DISCARDED* WHEN HE TIRES OF YOU.»



«BUT, I CANNOT LET YOU TAKE *OTHERS* DOWN WITH YOU.»



«YOU WILL WALK THIS PATH *ALONE*.»





JOKER HAS
ACTIVATED ALL OF
THE DEVICES!

BAT-MAN OF
CHINA, YOUR SISTER
IS RIGGED TO TAKE OUT
EVERYONE IN THE VICINITY
IN THE NEXT 29
MINUTES.



WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER IF
WE'RE GOING TO FIGURE OUT A
WAY TO STOP THIS.

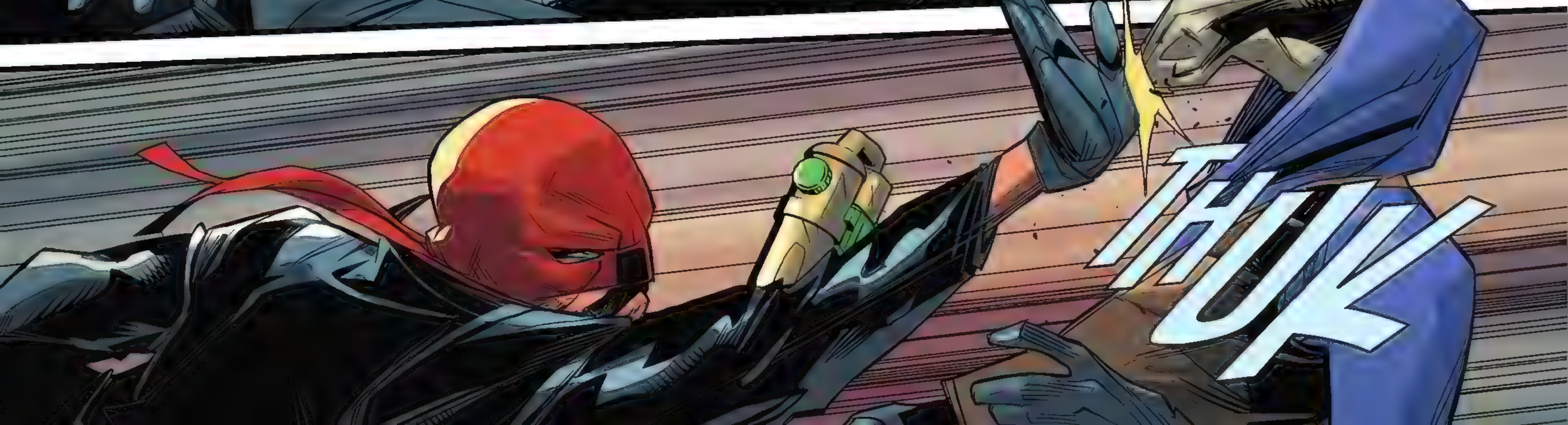
IF YOU
WANT TO SAVE YOUR
SISTER, YOU NEED TO
STOP FIGHTING.



GHOST-MAKER,
YOU NEED TO STAND
DOWN!



YOU KNOW THE RULES!
YOU STOP FIGHTING,
I DROP BODIES.





OKAY,
EVERYONE LISTEN
TO ME.

DON'T JUST
STAND THERE,
MORONS.



GET
HIM!

ANYONE
TAKES A
STEP...



...AND I SWEAR
I PULL THIS
TRIGGER.



YOU ARE BEING PLAYED
HERE, ALPACA.

LIES!

WHATEVER HE PROMISED YOU--A PLACE
NEXT TO HIM, A CHANCE TO RULE
SHANGHAI, WHATEVER--IT IS
NOT TRUE.

HE HAS **NO INTEREST**
IN WORKING WITH
OTHERS.

HE ONLY
WANTS TO PERVERT WHAT
BATMAN INCORPORATED
STANDS FOR.

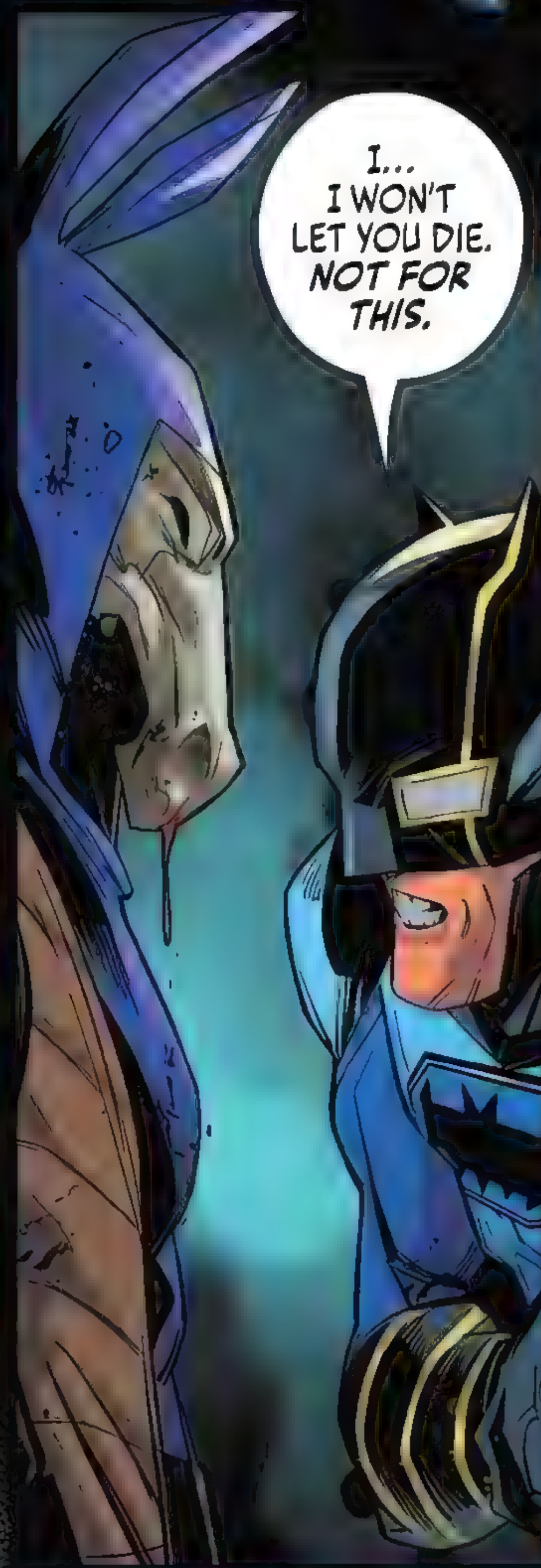


HE ONLY WANTS
FOR **US** TO KILL
YOU.



IT'S THE TRUTH,
J'ALI.

IT'S WHAT
I WAS **TRYING**
TO TELL YOU.



I...
I WON'T
LET YOU DIE.
**NOT FOR
THIS.**



JOKER IMPLANTED
SOMETHING INSIDE OF
YOU...SOME SORT OF
EXPLOSIVE OR...

...CHEMICAL
WEAPON, WE DON'T
KNOW FOR SURE...

AND IF WE
DON'T KILL YOU, IT'S
GOING TO GO OFF IN
THE NEXT TWENTY...EIGHT
MINUTES, KILLING ALL
OF US.

ME, YOU,
ALL THE HOSTAGES,
ALL OF YOUR MEN.
EVERYONE.



NICE TRY,
BROTHER.

BUT...EVEN
IF I AM GOING
OUT, THEN I'M
GOING TO TAKE
**ALL OF YOU
WITH ME.**



**DROP THE
HOSTAGES!**

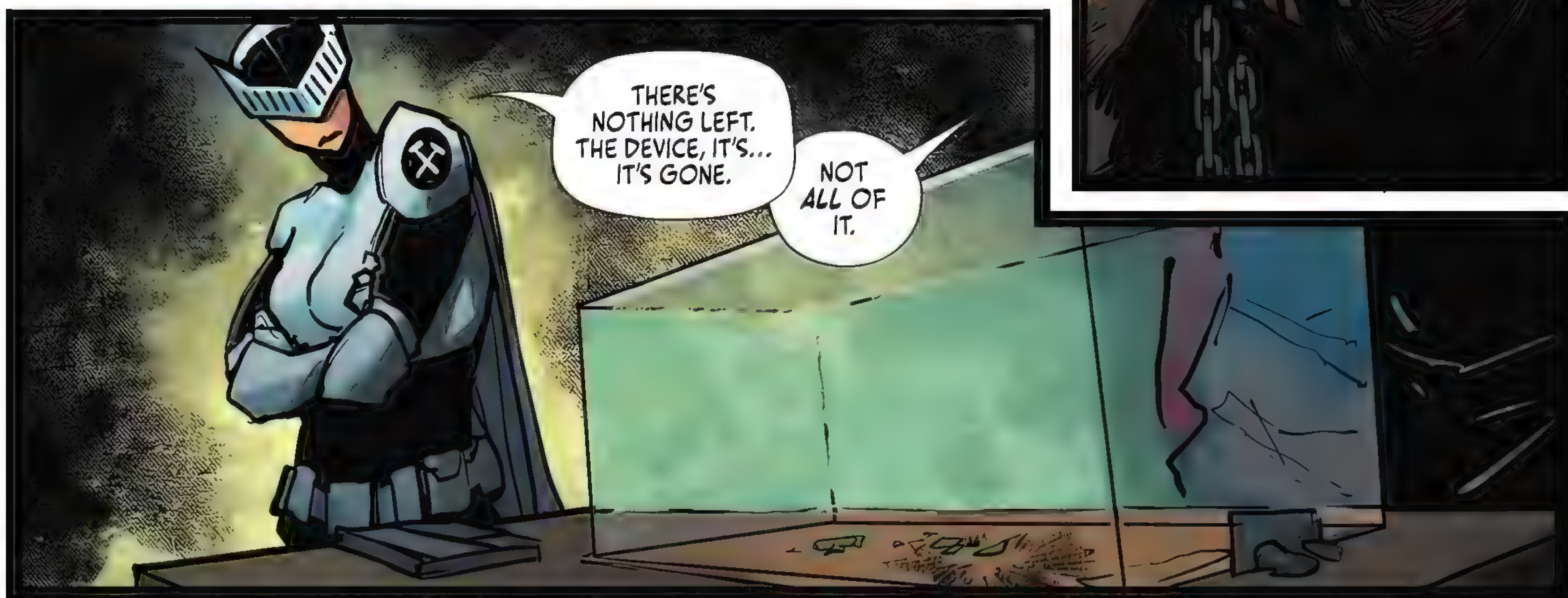


WE
FAILED.

WE HAD
ONE SHOT TO
SOLVE THIS, TO HELP
THE TEAM, AND WE
BOLLOCKSED
IT UP.



WE STILL
HAVE 25
MINUTES--WE
CANNOT
STOP.



THERE'S
NOTHING LEFT.
THE DEVICE, IT'S...
IT'S GONE.

NOT
ALL OF
IT.



IN KAZBEK,
WE DID NOT
HAVE ACCESS TO
MUCH **MODERN**
TECHNOLOGY. MOST
OF WHAT WE HAD WAS
LEFT OVER FROM
THE SECOND
WORLD WAR.

WE COULD
NOT **REPLACE** IT,
SO WE HAD TO LEARN
HOW TO **REPAIR** WHAT
WE COULD WITH
WHAT WE HAD
AVAILABLE.

OFTEN,
WE HAD TO
GET CREATIVE. HAD
TO WORK WITH **VERY**
LITTLE, KNOWING
WE HAD NO OTHER
OPTION.



THAT'S WHAT
YOU AND I **MUST**
DO NOW.

WE MUST
WORK WITH
WHAT **LITTLE**
IS LEFT.



ALL RIGHT,
LET'S NOT STAND
OUT HERE ADMIRIN'
OUR GUNS.

TWENTY
PACES, *BEST*
MAN WINS.



IT
WOULD BE SO
EASY.

SO EASY TO JUST
SHOOT YOU DOWN
WHERE YOU STAND
FOR WHAT YOU DID
TO MY FATHER.



BUT THIS
IS A COWARD'S
WEAPON.

THE WEAPON
OF SOMEONE
WHO'S AFRAID TO
LOOK HIS ENEMY IN
THE EYE AS HE
FIGHTS HIM.



AND I'M NO COWARD.
I WANT TO SEE THE LIFE
LEAVE YOUR BODY BY MY
OWN HANDS.



WHATEVER
YOU SAY,
KID.



I THINK
I'LL STICK
TO MY GUNS,
THOUGH.



RAVEN
RED, MAN...
DON'T...
...YOU'RE
GOING TO KILL
HIM!



GET
OFF OF
ME!

I'M
DONE PLAYING
AROUND.
TIME TO
FIX THIS...



...SO THAT
YOU NEVER HURT
ANYONE ELSE
EVER AGAIN.

JOKER INCORPORATED

PART 4

ED BRISSON WRITER
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NIKOLA ČIŽMEŠIJA ARTISTS
REX LOKUS COLORIST
CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER

JOHN TIMMS COVER
MICHELE BANDINI &
REX LOKUS VARIANT COVER
SALVADOR LARROCA &
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. 1:25 VARIANT COVER
BEN ABERNATHY EDITOR



TO BE CONCLUDED!

AN EERIE MELODY HAUNTS THE GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DISCOVER WHAT
SINISTER FORCE IS PLUCKING THE STRINGS?

"Ram V and Albuquerque
weave a delicate dance
between supernatural
horror and superheroics."
—comicbook.com

BATMAN™

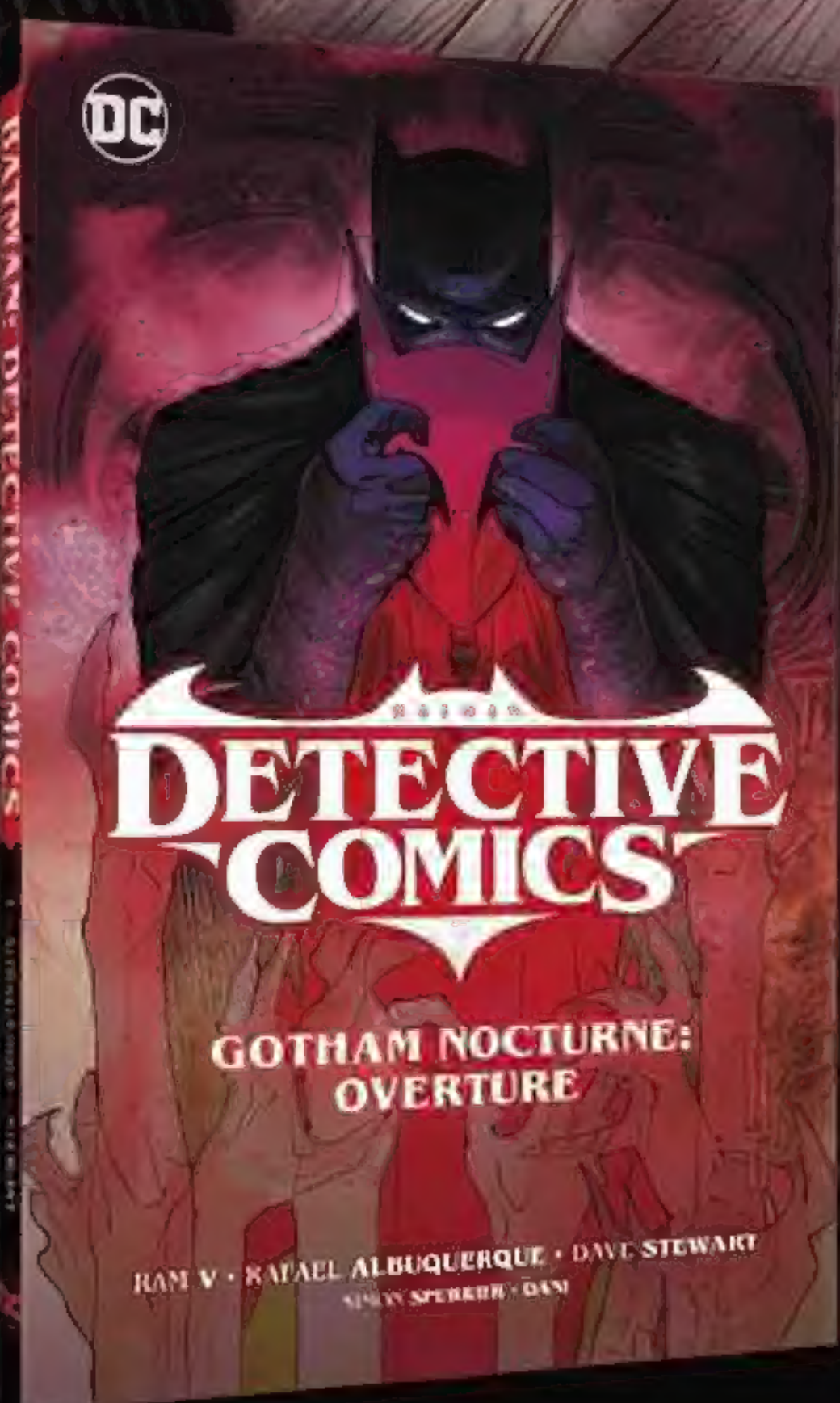
DETECTIVE COMICS™

VOL. 1:

GOTHAM NOCTURNE: OVERTURE

WRITTEN BY
RAM V
WITH SI SPURRIER

ART BY
**RAFAEL
ALBUQUERQUE**
WITH DANI



AUGUST

GEORGE LOPEZ

RUDY IN

Blue Beetle



What can you tell us about Rudy, your character in the film?

On my last trip to Atlanta, I was in a car and I looked out the window and there was a guy working for the city with about a 10-inch goatee, glasses, long hair, and a city orange vest that had no sleeves, and I thought, man, that's me. I like the idea that we're so quick to judge somebody by the way they look, and Rudy is a bit of a contradiction from the way that he looks.

Why do you think the scarab chose Jaime Reyes as its host?

I think it chose Jaime because it knew that he's a good guy. The scarab chose somebody who would use their powers for good. If you go back into the bug lair and you see Ted Kord's previous Blue Beetle uniforms it was from a guy that had money, was a little bit eccentric, and would create these outfits for himself...but he couldn't fly anywhere.

What can fans expect from Blue Beetle's costume?

You've seen nothing until you've seen the Blue Beetle costume deploy and the pincers retract! It's amazing to see him fly and fight. He operates in a dark blue and black costume, similar to charcoal, which may be the coolest colors of all time. It feels more like a skin than an actual costume. I've seen a lot of bugs in my day, but I've never seen one that looks like that.

How is being a part of Blue Beetle meaningful to you?

As an actor, I've been fortunate enough to have done stand-up for a long time, had my own show named after me, and a number of other incredible things in my career. However, I would have hated to not be involved in this project. If I wasn't cast in this movie it would've been heartbreaking in a sense, but I'm honored to be a part of it. To know that you're specifically chosen to be in this great project, and give life to a guy like Rudy, is beyond an honor.



IN THEATERS AUGUST 18!

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

